

From: [Canellas, Bart](#)
To: [Sanchez, Petra](#)
Cc: [Little, Bill](#)
Subject: RE: Devils Swamp Lake round 2. My edits of Bart's submission.
Date: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 2:27:51 PM

Historically the community have complained to the state in the 1970s, before the times of EPA, RCRA and Superfund.

While there are many industrial facilities, chemical plants, landfills and hazardous waste disposal facilities. Limited early records available reflect a permit issued by the Louisiana Air Control Commission, Division of Engineering, Bureau of Environmental Health, State Department of Health in 11/13/1969.

That was issued to "International Hydromics Corporation for a Ultimate Disposal Facility, Rollins Purle, Baton Rouge, LA.

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A transcript from an Environmental Control Commission meeting on 3/25/1980 reports statements made by Ms. Catherine Ewell. She reported Rollins Environmental Plant built on their southeast side in front of their property. That in February 1974, she reported they had a spill from Rollins into their cattle watering pond. At that time they lost about 20 heads of cattle.

These is the earliest complaints I have found.

On February 20, 1974 there is a temporary order to stop unpermitted discharges to Baker Canal and Bayou Baton Rouge. Based on a February 8, 1974 inspection where it was observed waste discharges from pits onto the ground and into ditches tributary to Baker Canal and Bayou Baton Rouge.

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After that, there were many complaints and inspections.

A report from Louisiana Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Health and Environmental Quality, November 24, 1980 summarizes a health survey done in Alsen Community. Total 136 persons interviewed and 86% reported having some symptoms in 1980.

These included eyes burning, frequent headache, sinus problems, breathing difficulties, nausea & vomiting, skin rash, dizziness.

Who received the first set of complaints? – The Louisiana State agencies at that time.

When we join in? – An EPA Superfund June 23, 1980 Preliminary Assessment reports that the



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Louisiana Department of Natural Resources field survey team observed water samples taken from the bottom of the Devil's Swamp Lake that showed a very dark water that exhibited the "chemical" smell characteristic of the Rollins effluent.

At that time Rollins was an active facility regulated under RCRA.

A Louisiana House of Representatives Concurrent Resolution No. 17, Regular Session, 1991 urge and request EPA to investigate and also designate as a Superfund Site.

EPA Superfund investigated.

In 2003 a Governor's letter was received in support of proposing the site to the National Priorities List (NPL).

The site was proposed to the NPL on March 8, 2004.

From: Sanchez, Petra

Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 12:27 PM

To: Canellas, Bart

Subject: FW: Devils Swamp Lake round 2. My edits of Bart's submission.

Bart,

Do you know who received the first set of complaints from the community (historically?). I'm thinking we should state that and how when it eventually made our attention, got it placed on the NPL or when we got involved?? I'll drop by if your free or if you want to discuss or make edits. Thank you Bart.

From: McCorkhill, Michael

Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2015 12:23 PM

To: Meyer, John; Sanchez, Petra

Subject: Devils Swamp Lake round 2. My edits of Bart's submission.

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Michael McCorkhill

Community Involvement Team

Region 6 US EPA

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Work 214 665-8553